

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 IO-14 OMB-01 SS-20

NSC-10 L-03 AID-20 DRC-01 /122 W

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R 200709Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1162

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7806

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS, JA

SUBJECT: CHURCH INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL PROTEST

1. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (NCCC) GENERAL SECRETARY KIM KWAN-SOK HAS TOLD EMBOFF OF PLANS OF "PROTESTANT CHURCH LEADERS" FOR DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROTEST ACTIVITIES BY STUDENTS AND YOUNG CLERGYMEN IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. HE SAID AIM WAS TO ATTRACT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION TO REPRESSION IN KOREA AND FURTHER EMBARRASS ROKG ABROAD.

2. REV. KIM SAID THAT IN CONNECTION WITHCOMING ROK-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE THEME OF PLANNED PROTESTS WOULD BE JAPANESE EXPLOITATION AND ROKG TOLERANCE OF JAPANESE ABUSES IN KOREA. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH STUDENT LEADERS AT SNU URGING THEM TO PLAY UP THESE THEMES. HE SAID HE HAD ALSO CONTACTED PROTESTANT CHURCH LEADERS IN JAPAN AND URGED THEM TO OPPOSE ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH THE PARK REGIME.

3. COMMENT: KIM HIMSELF HAS MOVED FROM PROTEST OVER SPECIFIC GOVERNMENT INJUSTICES TO POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO PARK GOVERNMENT. HIS VISIBLY ACTIVIST VIEWS ARE STILL PROBABLY SHARED BY ONLY A MINORITY OF CHRISTAIN LEADERS. HOWEVER, KIM, OTHER CHRISTAIN ACTIVISTS, AND SOME WESTERN MISSIONARIES APPEAR NOW TO BE INCRE-
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ASINGLY INVMBVING THEMSELVES DIRECTLY IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT

ACTIVITIES.

HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 20 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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